

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/567,357

Examiner

DENNIS JOSEPH

Applicant(s)

TANAKA ET AL.

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to September 22, 2011.
2. ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
3. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-11,13,14,16 and 18-23.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20110930.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1, 3-11, 13, 14, 16 and 18-23 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to Claim 1:

Kubota teaches a clock signal generator that generates a clock signal (Kubota, column 8, lines 1-2). Kubota teaches the use of a clock signal, therefore there must be a clock signal generator. Kubota also teaches a test signal generator (Kubota, column 9, lines 39-53). Kubota teaches a signal video data line (RGB signal) which is then used to generate a signal video data line (DAT). The use of a single line implies serial data and also, please note Figure 2 for a data driver to the pixels. Kubota also teaches a phase adjusting device that adjusts the phase of the clock signal (Kubota, column 9, lines 39-53). Kubota teaches generating detecting signals which are the same as test signals. Kubota also teaches a serial data generator that generates serial data according to an image to be displayed (Kubota, column 7, lines 19-26, and figure 1); but

Kubota does not explicitly teach of a plasma display with the newly claimed connections and more importantly, how the plasma-specific components interact with the latch failure detector, such as the plurality of latch failure detectors which provided from the test generator to the plurality of data drivers. In addition, for the limitation:

“wherein said phase adjustor varies the phase of said clock signal to detect a phase range where no latch failure occurs, and stores, in said first storage device, a phase in a center of said detected

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phase range as said optimal phase during said adjustment period, and adjusts the phase of said clock signal to said optimal phase stored in said first storage device in the write period after said optimal phase is stored by said first storage device”.

Kubota does not explicitly teach the above limitation and one of ordinary skill in the art would not realize to adjust the phase in the center of the detected phase range in the claimed period and retrieve this range from a storage device.

Prior art, taken alone or in combination, do not teach the missing limitations.

Furthermore, Independent claims 13 and 14 are also allowed for similar reasoning and in addition, they recite a ring buffer with delay elements that represent the means on how to achieve the phase adjustment.

Conclusions

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis P. Joseph whose telephone number is 571-270-1459. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amr Awad can be reached on 571-272-7764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/DENNIS JOSEPH/
Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Amr Awad/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629